Mr. Gurudas Das Gupta to suspend the Question Hour to take up the issue of Ayodhya. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down. Let the Home Minister make his point.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN) : I will request hon. Members on both sides of the House not to press for it. It will not be just and proper because yesterday only we had some sort of a discussion on this issue, and again if we were to suspend the Question Hour, that will not be a correct procedure. I would request all the hon. Members to continue the Question Hour and thereafter, if there are some points which are raised, I can understand. But we can have a regular discussion. The situation is so delicate, I request all the hon. Members not to complicate the issue by raising all kinds of issues.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY (Tamil Nadu) : The matter has already been made complicated. The existence of secularism and democracy is in question. Therefore, the Question Hour should be dispensed with and straightway discussion on the Ayodhya issue should be taken up.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA : In view of the statement made by Mr. L. K. Advani, it becomes incumbent on us to discuss the issue because the future of the country, the future of secularism, the foundation of the Indian constitution, is totally threatened.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I would like to submit, suspension of the Question Hour is a very, very serious matter affecting the interest of the House as a whole, every Member of the House, especially the back benchers of this House. As you know, a decision has been taken at the conference of the Presiding Officers that the Question Hour will never be suspended. Therefore, I would like to appeal to you, this matter can be discussed after 45 minutes, as suggested by the hon. Home Minister. Now we should go ahead with the Question Hour. I did not think any emergency will be there in the next forty minutes. It is in the interest of the House, as a whole, to go ahead with the Question Hour.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Sir, in deference to your wishes, we declare that we are not pressing for our motion.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Thank you. Q. No. 121.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

हजीरा–बिजयपुर–जगदीशपुर पाइपलाइन से मध्य प्रदेश को गैस का आबंटन

*121. **श्री अजीत जोगी :**

श्री राधा किशन मालवीय : क्या पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या हजीरा-बिजयपुर-जगदीशपुर पाइपलाइन से मध्य प्रदेश को पर्याप्त मात्रा में गैस का आबंटन नहीं किया जा रहा है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं;

(ग) क्या राज्य में गैस की अनुपलब्धता के कारण बिजयपुर, जिला गुना में गैस क्रैकर संयंत्र की स्थापना कर पाना संभव नहीं है हालांकि इस प्रयोजन के लिए वहां पर कच्चा माल उपलब्ध है;

(घ) यदि हां, तो सरकार इस संबंध में क्या कदम उठाने का विचार रखती है; और

(ङ) मध्य प्रदेश की स्थिति की तुलना में अन्य राज्यों में हजीरा-बिजयपुर-जगदीशपुर पाइपलाइन से गैस की उपलब्धता की स्थिति क्या है ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNAKUMAR) : (a) to (d) Two LPG plants and a fertilizer plant based on gas along the HBJ pipeline have already been set up in Madhya Pradesh. It is also proposed to double the capacity of the

*द्वारा में यह प्रश्न श्री अजीत जोगी द्वारा पूछा गया

fertilizer plant and set up a Polypropylene plant in Madhya Pradesh subject to the viability of the selected technology. There is no proposal to set up a gas cracker in Madhya Pradesh.

(e) The allocation of natural gas from the pipeline is not state-wise but to specific units based on best economic use, with priority to core sectors such as fertilizer and power.

SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, great and grave injustice has been done to the State of Madhya Pradesh in regard to the allocation of gas from the HBJ pipeline. This is in spite of the fact that the HBJ pipeline passes, traverses through the longest length in the State of Madhya Pradesh. In spite of the fact that it passes through the most backward area of the State, it passes through an area which is predominantly a tribal area, it passes through an area where there is a need for development, the claims of the State had been ignored. Sir, whatever share has been given to us so far by the GAIL and the Petroleum Ministry, we get only 10 per cent of the gas. Out of 18.5 million cubic metres gas, our allocation is only 1.5 million cubic metres gas. Therefore, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the Minister whether the request for gas that has been made by the State Government, for establishing a gas cracker plant, a gas-based power plant, sponge iron plant and an oil refinery, would be considered sympathetically. Would he consider giving us more gas from the HBJ pipeline ? May I know from the Minister whether he will consider these projects sympathetically for which the raw materials are there and the linkages are there ? Most of all, the area is predominantly a tribal area and a very backward area. Therefore, he should reconsider, *inter se*, the allocation of gas among these four States.

SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR : Sir, while appreciating the concern of the hon. Member for the development of the State of Madhya Pradesh, I would like to place before him and the House, the background of the establishment of the HBJ pipeline. This pipeline was sanctioned in 1984 consequent on a report of a Committee for the development of six fertilizer plants in northern India and thereafter in 1986, three power plants were added again in northern India. As of now, Sir, the entire capacity of the HBJ Pipeline is fully utilised and even after expansion of the HBJ Pipeline and the Hazira terminal, the maximum gas which can flow from the HBJ Pipeline already stands committed. The total HBJ Pipeline allocation of gas to Madhya Pradesh is 4.6 million cubic metres and in Madhya Pradesh, one fertilizer plant has already been sanctioned which will get 3.6 million cubic metres per day and two LPG plants which will get one million cubic metres per day. As of now, there is no possibility of giving additional allocation of gas not only to the State of Madhya Pradesh but to any other State because the available gas stands already committed. It is true that there are 31 applications pending from Madhya Pradesh some of which the hon. Member highlighted. But the position is that gas is not available as of now or even when the HBJ Pipeline is upgraded for these requirements.

श्री अजीत जोगी : सभापति महोदय, मंत्री जी ने कहा है कि मध्य प्रदेश की जो मांग है वह उसको उचित मानते हैं, फिर भी वे मदद नहीं कर पाएंगे । मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहूंगा कि आने वाले दो-तीन वर्षों में एच० बी० जे० पाईप लाईन से जो गैस प्रवाहित होगी उसकी मात्रा लगभग दुगनी हो जाएगी और 36 मिलियन क्यूबिक मीटर प्रतिदिन उपलब्ध होगी । क्या यह सच है, जैसा हमको बताया गया है कि यह जो 36 मिलियन क्यूबिक मीटर गैस प्रतिदिन उससे उपलब्ध होने वाली है उसका भी बंटवारा आपने कर दिया है और उसमें भी मध्य प्रदेश के साथ पूरी तरह से अन्याय करने जा रहे हैं । वह गैस उपलब्ध होने से पहले ही आपने उसका बंटवारा इन चार प्रांतों को कर दिया है और उसमें भी मध्य प्रदेश को सबसे कम गैस आप देने वाले हैं, जबकि मध्य प्रदेश में वह पाईप लाईन सबसे लम्बी यात्रा करके आती है । आपने

अपने उत्तर में कहा है कि हम गैस का वितरण राज्यों के आधार पर नहीं करते हैं,

This is a federal polity where you cannot neglect the *inter se* and respective claims of the States.

इस संघीय व्यवस्था में राज्यों का जो अधिकार है, आप उसको नजरअंदाज नहीं कर सकते हैं। इसलिए मैं आपके माध्यम से जानना चाहूंगा कि गेल और आपके मंत्रालय ने अभी जो इन चारों राज्यों में गैस का आपसी बंटवारा किया है, उसको आप पूरी तरह से रद्द कर दें और एक नई कमेटी बनाएं, जिसमें विशेषज्ञ हों, जिसमें चारों प्रदेशों के मुख्य मंत्री हों, जिसमें जानकार संसद सदस्य हों, ताकि वे लोग बैठकर इस गैस का बंटवारा करें। इस पर क्या आप विचार करेंगे ?

SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR : Sir, allocation of gas along the HBJ Pipeline or for that matter, in any of the gas resources or production centres is not decided on the basis of the States. I have already given... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI : But it is a fundamental mistake that in a federal polity you say that you will not consider the respective claims of States but you will consider the claims of places. You have to consider the respective claims of States.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let the Minister answer.

SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR : The claims of the State as presented through individual projects were considered by the Central Government and the Committees appointed by the Central Government at the appropriate time. The locations of these plants were decided on socio-economic considerations and the best economic use of gas. The HBJ Pipeline, and its distribution, as it stands, is the culmination of a process of more than eight years by which these allocations have been made, projects have come up and many projects are in stream and therefore, any re-allocation is out of the realm of possibility. The suggestion made by the hon. Member to appoint a new Committee to re-allocate gas is impractical and, therefore, cannot be considered by the Government.

श्री राधा किशन मालवीय : सभापति महोदय, एच० बी० जे० गैस पाइप लाइन मध्य प्रदेश के बीच से होकर निकलती है और यह बहुत बड़े इलाके से, उधर जो हमारा ट्राइबल एरिया है, वहां से होकर आती है किन्तु दुर्भाग्य की बात है कि मध्य प्रदेश को जितनी गैस की मात्रा देनी चाहिए उतनी गैस का आवंटन सरकार ने नहीं किया है। तो माननीय, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि एच० बी० जे० गैस पाइपलाइन की जो वर्तमान क्षमता 18.2 एम० एम० एस० सी० एम० डी० है, तो सरकार आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में वर्तमान क्षमता में कितनी वृद्धि करने के प्रस्ताव रखती है क्या सरकार ने आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में मध्य प्रदेश की गैस आवंटित करने का विचार किया है ?

दूसरी बात यह है कि एच० बी० जे० गैस पाइपलाइन मध्य प्रदेश के बिजयपुर जिला गुना के गैस संयंत्रों को कितनी गैस आवंटित की जा रही है ?

तीसरी बात मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या मध्य प्रदेश की सरकार ने एक विद्युत संयंत्र स्थापित करने के लिए गैस के अतिरिक्त आवंटन की मांग की है ? यदि मांग की है तो उस विद्युत संयंत्र के लिए कब गैस आवंटित की जाएगी, जैसा कि माननीय मंत्री जी ने कहा कि उसमें उर्वरक तथा विद्युत के क्षेत्र शामिल हैं। तो मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि विद्युत संयंत्र के लिए ये कब गैस का आवंटन करेंगे ?

SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR : Sir, as I have stated already, the gas which stands allocated is more than the expanded capacity of the HBJ pipeline after the upgradation project is implemented. The present capacity of 18.15 million cubic metres per

day and the capacity of the HBJ pipeline is proposed to be doubled through the upgradation project. The upgradation project is at the PIB stage and the project is to be implemented by 1996 even after its implementation the capacity of the HBJ pipeline stands fully committed already, of which 4.6 million cubic metres per day stand allocated to Madhya Pradesh. The fertilizer plant in Madhya Pradesh will get 3.6 million cubic metres per day. The two LPG plants which the hon. Member has mentioned will get one million cubic metres per day. Therefore, even after the upgradation of the HBJ line there is no scope for considering new requests. It is true that the Government of Madhya Pradesh has been persuading us for an allocation of 3 million cubic metres per day for an 800 megawatt power station at Gwalior, But unfortunately we are unable to accede to this request in view of the circumstances stated by me.

SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI : Sir, I plead your protection.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Giri Prasad.

SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI : Sir, I plead your protection. The hon. Minister says that the demand of Madhya Pradesh is just. He also says that mistakes have been committed. But he also says that he cannot correct the mistakes. He says the irregularities which have been committed in allocating the gas to the various States cannot be corrected.

MR. CHAIRMAN : He has given a detailed answer, please. Shri Giri Prasad.

SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD : Sir, recently the Chief Ministers of the southern States—I would request the hon. Minister to pay attention to this—had requested the Central Government to lay a pipeline to Southern States. According to the Government's information the gas available in the Godavari-Krishna basin is very low and the expectation has not been fulfilled. Moreover, the coal reserves are also very low in the southern States. Nowadays, the power projects in Andhra Pradesh and other States are suffering due to lack of coal linkage. Many projects are held up because of lack of this facility. In view of this there is every justification for the demand from the southern States, including Andhra Pradesh, to lay a pipeline from Bombay High where the gas is being flared unnecessarily for years together. In view of this, to tap the flared gas and to supply it to the Southern States, will the Government consider laying a pipeline through the Southern States via Hyderabad ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the question does not arise from the main question. But in one way it is corelated. The hon. Member who has put the main question seems to have based his question on the rights of States in a federal structure. If that be the basis for demand of natural gas which is mainly produced in the Western off-shore and if Madhya Pradesh demands that it should have a share in the gas and if that is accepted perhaps, the planning, the allocation and the distribution of natural gas would be different. If we look at the past when in March, 1984 this HBJ project was approved, it was not thought that gas should be allocated on the basis of the rights of States. The consideration then was that the six fertilizer projects should be the main target for supply of this gas. That is how we have the HBJ—Hajira, Bijapur and Jagdishpur. What was the consideration for this ? How was this pipeline taken ? It could not have been taken over the skies. What was taken into consideration was the value analysis as well as the terrain conditions, the alignment running close to major railway lines, national-State highways and the alignment going through less populated areas. It was not done on the basis of States. The gas was to be brought up to UP. State-wise share was never considered because that was not the consideration. The consideration was the demand of the six fertilizer units. That is how the HBJ pipeline was laid. Now, I am coming to the next question. The hon. Member asked about the southern gas States. Now the Southern States have demanded that natural gas should be made available to them also. Fortunately we have found gas which could be thought of being supplied to Southern States over and above the commitments which have already been made through upgradation of the HBJ pipeline which has been approved for the downstream demands, which are going to come up within the next three-four years.

श्री अनन्त राय देवशंकर दवे : सभापति महोदय, मैं दो तीन बाते पूछना चाहता हूं। पहला सवाल मेरा यह है कि एच० बी० पी० पाइपलाइन में से जो गैस बर्न हो रही है उसके लिए सरकार के पास एक प्रस्ताव भी है और दूसरी लाइन भी आप वहां पर डालने जा रहे हैं और गुजरात में एच० बी० जे० पाइपलाइन जा रही है और हजीरा में एक उत्रान पावर स्टेशन तैयार है जहां पर मशीनरी भी आ गई है। आपकी मिनिस्ट्री का और गवर्नमेंट का कमिटमेंट भी है कि हम गैस देंगे। लेकिन आज दिन तक वहां पर गैस नहीं दी गई है और दूसरी पाइपलाइन डालकर ताप्ती पाइपलाइन से एच० बी० जे० पाइपलाइन दी जा रही है। तो जो गुजरात के इलेक्ट्रिसिटी बोर्ड की डिमांड है उसको आप कब तक गैस देंगे ?

मेरा दूसरा प्रश्न है कि गुजरात के सब पावर स्टेशन जो पहले चलते है तो तीन हजार, चार हजार किलोमीटर दूरी से उनके लिए कोयला आता है जिसके कारण वहां पर सबसे ज्यादा महंगी इलेक्ट्रिसिटी है, तो उसको कब तक गैस आप देंगे ताकि वहां जो कोयला आता है गुजरात में वह कम हो जाए और गुजरात के किसानों को सस्ती बिजली मिले ? पीपावाह में राजीव गांधी ने भी कमिटमेंट किया था, ओ० एन० जी० सी० ने भी कमिटमेंट किया है, तो पीपावाह को गैस कब देंगे ? आज दिन तक उस कमिटमेंट का पालन कम्पनी नहीं कर रही है तो मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि पीपावाह को कब तक गैस देने जा रहे हैं ?

SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR : Sir, the first part of the hon. Member's supplementary, I presume, is about the Utran power station. This power station has been supplied gas from the Gandhar gasfield and not from Hazira. But we are not able to satisfy the request of the Guajarat Government in this regard because, as I said, sufficient gas is not available at Hazira. As regards the Pipava power station, the problem is that originally it was supposed to have been given from Gandhar but the Gandhar gas has now been made available to two other power stations in Gujarat only by the Ministry. And the request of the Gujarat Government to get gas from the Tapti fields as not possible because the Gandhar gas already stands allocated to Gujarat and Tapti gas will, therefore, become necessary for the HBJ pipeline. In other words, you cannot have the cake and eat it too.... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHHOTUBHAI PATEL : You can supply from the Bombay High.

SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR : The total gas available in Gujarat, produced in in Gujarat, is being utilised in Gujarat only. In addition to the fact that the entire gas produced in Gujarat is utilised in Gujarat only, a specific portion of the HBJ pipeline gas is also being given to Gujarat. Also at the Hazira terminal, the entire 10 million cm. of gas per day is used in and around Hazira for industrial development. So about 11 million cm. out of 48 million cm. of gas per day is being presently consumed, that is, more or less 25 per cent of the entire gas produced in the country is used in the Gujarat State. This will be the scenario after the development of the gas fields also. But we are trying our best to see how we can satisfy the needs of Gujarat in the optimum possible way....

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI DINESHBHAI TRIVEDI : It means that commitment has no value.... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI JAGESH DESAI : From where do you get the gas for Maharashtra ? .. (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : Under what fundamental right has the Centre been claiming authority over the gas ? (*Interruptions*) Under what law has the Centre taken that right ? ..... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : They are neglecting the Southern States.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please, I think all these points have been mentioned....

(Interruptions)

श्री अनन्तराय देवशंकर दवे : वह गलत आन्सर दे रहे हैं। सरकार ने कमिटमेंट क्यों दिया है? 200 करोड़ की मशीन वैसे ही पड़ी हुई है।...(व्यवधान)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Jagmohan. Please give him a chance.... *(Interruptions)* We have to give a chance to all the persons who want to ask questions or to as many as possible.

SHRI VIREN J. SHAH : The point is, the reply of the Minister is not accurate.

Environmental Deterioration

*122. SHRI JAGMOHAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that world environment in general and Indian environment in particular has deteriorated in the period intervening Stockholm Conference (1972) and Rio Conference (1992);

(b) if not, what are the comparative data in the major areas; and

(c) if answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what precise measures are being advocated at the international level and what concrete steps are being taken at the National level ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) It is well accepted that in the last two deceades there has been world wide deterioration in the environment.

(c) At the international level, India has been participating in the ongoing negotiations aimed at improving the environment, including the recent United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED). India has joined the Montreal Protocol on Substance that deplete the Ozone Layer. India has also signed the Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Convention on Biological Diversity. Follow-up action at the national level has also been initiated on the decisions of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) held in June, 1992, at Rio de Janeiro.

Also at the national level, in order to prevent deterioration of the environment and to promote conservation of nature and natural resources, several concrete measures have been taken by Government. These include legislative measures such as the Wildife (Protection) Act, 1972, the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, and the Environment (Protecton) Act, 1986. Besides, important policy statement have been made, such as the National Forest Policy (1988), the Policy on Abatement of Pollution (1992) and the National Conservation Strategy and Policy Statement on Environment and Develoment (1992). Other measures include, implementation of action programmes for 'cleaning' and 'greening'; including the Ganga Action Plan, afforestattion and tree planting on degraded lands, control of industrial pollution by laying down standards and enforcing them, taking measures to promote cleaner techonologies, management of hazardous substances, zoning of ecologically sensitive areas, promoting further research and scientific understanding of the environmental problems with a view to taking corrective steps; strengthening impact assesment procedures; involvement of non-government organisations and Cen-